

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS YEW

USOL PEKING

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMCONSUL KRAKOW

AMCONSUL POZNAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 5091

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG, PL

SUBJECT: POLISH MEDIA ON CSCE

REF: A) WARSAW 4951; B) BONN 12547

1. SUMMARY. THE POLISH MEDIA HAVE GIVEN MASSIVE
TREATMENT TO THE HELSINKI "SUMMIT," INCLUDING LIVE
TELEVISION COVERAGE OF OPENING AND CLOSING CERE-
MONIES. EMPHASIZING FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK'S DEPICA
TION OF TME FINAL CSCE DOCUMENT AS A ?GREAT CHAR-
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TER OF PEACE," TELEVISION AND PRESS COMMENTARY HAS

HAILED HELSINKI AS THE BEGINNING OF A "NEW ERA" IN EUROPEAN RELATIONS, WHICH SHOULD BE A STIMULUS TO FURTHERING DETENTE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. WITH A NOTABLE EXCEPTION, COMMENTATORS HAVE REFRAINED FROM PRESENTING THE FINAL DOCUMENT AS LEGALLY BINDING, BUT ALL HAVE STRESSED THE NEED FOR CONTINUED EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT ITS PRINCIPLES REMAIN VITAL AND RESPECTED. END SUMMARY.

2. AMONG MORE PROMINENT MEDIA THEMES HAVE BEEN THOSE RELATED TO CONFIRMATION OF THE "POLITICAL-TERRITORIAL" STATUS QUO IN EUROPE, A FORMULATION GIEREK USED IN HIS ADDRESS AT HELSINKI. WE ASSUME DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE TEXT). THE FIRST SECRETARY ALSO MADE THE LINK WITH POTSDAM (REF A) AND POSITED AS THE BASIS OF A PEACEFUL EUROPEAN ORDER RESPECT FOR THE STATE OF THINGS" RESULTING FROM THE VICTORY OVER FASCISM. HE FURTHER EMPHASIZED THE PRINCIPLES OF INVIOABILITY OF FRONTIERS. TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, AS EMBODIED IN THE FINAL DOCUMENT, ASSERTING THAT ADOPTION OF THESE PRINCIPLES SIGNIFIES "ONCE AND FOR ALL" THE RENUNCIATION BY ALL CSCE PARTICIPANTS OF TERRITORIAL CLAIMS. THESE REMARKS HAVE BEEN TRUMPETED BY THE MEDIA HERE, WITH OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO THE QUESTION OF POLAND'S WESTERN BORDERS.

3. SOMEWHAT SUPRISINGLY, IN THEIR RECENT COMMENTARY, THE MEDIA HAVE TENDED TO BLUR THE QUESTION OF THE LEGAL NATURE OF THE DOCUMENT. A ZYCIE WARSZAWY CORRESPONDENT, IN THE WEEKEND EDITION, OBSERVED THAT SECURITY AND COOPERATION HAVE BECOME THE "GREAT MORAL INJUNCTION" OF ALL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. THE SAME WRITER, DESCRIBING A POSSIBLE FRANCO-POLISH PACT REPORTEDLY DISCUSSED DURING THE GIEREK-GISVARD D'ESTAING BILATERAL AT HELSINKI, DECLARED THAT SUCH AN AGREEMENT WOULD BE THE FIRST POLITICAL DOCUMENT BASED ON HELSINKI WHICH WOULD CARRY "NOT ONLY MORAL OBLIGATIONS." A TELEVISION COMMENTATOR ON AUGUST 1 POINTED TO THE MORALLY BINDING NATURE OF THE CSCE FINAL DOCUMENT.

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4. ON THE OTHER HAND, RESPECTED COLUMNIST RYSZARD WOJNA, WRITING IN TRYBUNA LUDU ON AUGUST 4, APPROACHED THE QUESTION DIFFERENTLY. HE ASSERTED THAT THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ENVISAGED BY THE GIEREK D'ESTAING CONSULTATIONS "WOULD UNDERLINE" THE "INTERNATIONAL-LEGAL NATURE" OF THE CSCE POSTULATES, ADDING THAT EACH OF THE 10 PRINCIPLES IS "AN INSTRUMENT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW" AND THEIR SELECTION AND COMPOSITION "PRESUMES" THEIR OVERALL INTER-

NATIONAL-LEGAL INTERPRETATION.

5. THE SCHMIDT-GIEREK BILATERAL AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR
FRG-VOLISH RELATIONS RECEIVED UNDERSTANDABLE MEDIA ATTENTION.
ALTHOUGH THE POLISH PRESS HAS NOT YET REVEALED THE DETAILS OF THE
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